

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/054,175	FLEETER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kwang B. Yao	2667	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 7/1/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,9-12,27-29, renumbered 1-10, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/22/02</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a low-cost satellite communication system. Each independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct features: regarding claim 1, a plurality of remote terminal units, each including a transmitter that transmits a transmission message to a satellite having a service area and a high-gain antenna with a field of view that sweeps the service area during a sweep period, such that: the transmitter is within the field of view for an illumination period that is substantially less than the sweep period, and the transmission message has a message duration that is less than the illumination period; and, a ground station that receives retransmission messages corresponding to the transmission message of at least a first terminal unit of the plurality of remote terminal units when the transmitter of the first terminal unit is within the field of view, wherein the transmitter of the first terminal unit is configured to repeatedly send the transmission message, based on a repeat parameter that differs from at least one other terminal unit of the plurality of remote terminal units; regarding claim 4 (originally filed claim 9), a message source that generates an information message, and a transmitter that communicates via a satellite having a service area and a high-gain antenna with a field of view that sweeps the service area during a sweep period and an illumination period that is substantially less than the sweep period, wherein the transmitter generates at least one transmission message that is based on the information message and has a message duration that is less than the illumination period, and the transmitter repeatedly transmits the at least one transmission message based on a repeat parameter that distinguishes the transmitter from other transmitters that communicate via the satellite; regarding claim 8 (originally filed claim 27),

Art Unit: 2667

deploying a satellite to provide communications within a service area, sweeping the service area during a sweep period with a high-gain antenna that has a field of view that is substantially smaller than the service area, receiving communications from one or more transmitters that are within the field of view for an illumination period that is substantially less than the sweep period, wherein the communications from the one or more transmitters include messages that each have a message duration that is less than the illumination period, and the one or more transmitters are configured to repeatedly send each transmission message for a repeat duration that is greater than the illumination period. The closest prior art, Rudowicz et al. (US 6,052,561) and Woodworth et al. (US 4,876,737) disclose conventional a satellite communication system, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above features obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

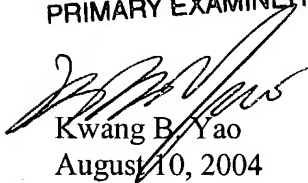
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kwang B. Yao whose telephone number is 703-308-7583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi H Pham can be reached on 703-305-4378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2667

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KWANG BIN YAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Kwang B. Yao
August 10, 2004